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Open Access Manifesto towards Global Library and Information Services

Sambhu Nath Halder[*]

Abstract

Digital data are easy to create, alter and manipulate. It is also easy to share widely over internet. Advocates of the open access movement have been working inside an intricate framework. It has been rigged toward publishers for quite a while, not users or (often) even content creators. Open access to resources has become an issue of immense interest and debate among the library, publisher and scholarly communities. This paper discusses various issues of open access initiatives and asses them in the librarians' point of view, indeed, the present condition of legitimate open access faces challenge from distributers and administrative foundations. Nowadays, additional legitimate record sharing is rising day by day. Library professionals are now effectively utilizing these resources, tools, and services in an integrated way for improving the existing services and designing new generation library services. It concludes that the important issues like open archiving must be emphasized by the policy makers to cope with the changing paradigm.

Keywords: *Open access resources, Open knowledge movement, Resource sharing.*

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INTRODUCTION

Manifesto is a public declaration containing the aims and policies of a specific mission. The information and knowledge based society is a current days' mission undertaken by various stakeholders of the society and the devising of well-informed citizens are the focus of this mission. The libraries, of any types, provide people access to knowledge and information that are crucial to keep space with today's information and knowledge-based society. The role of open access to formation of knowledge based society is a significant issue. To discuss this issue, we have to mention some historic manifesto.

ALEXANDRIA MANIFESTO ON LIBRARIES

According to the Alexandria Manifesto on Libraries, the Information Society in Action (IFLA, 2005) the "Libraries and information services contribute to the sound operation of the inclusive Information Society. They enable intellectual freedom by providing access to information, ideas and works of imagination in any medium and regardless of frontiers. They help to safeguard democratic values and universal civil rights impartially and by opposing any form of censorship." Libraries and information services contribute to the sound operation of the inclusive Information Society. According to Learning (2006) they enable intellectual freedom by providing access to information, ideas, and works of imagination in any medium and regardless of frontiers. They help to safeguard democratic values and universal civil rights impartially and by opposing any form of censorship.

PUBLIC LIBRARY MANIFESTO

The aims and policies declared in the UNESCO's Public Library Manifesto (1949, 1972, 1994) may also be appropriate to be discussed in this regard. A well inform citizen, as described by this manifesto, can exercise democratic rights and able to play an active role in the contemporary society. The substances of such capacity are palatable instruction and additionally the free as well as boundless access to work, manifestation and knowledge. The public libraries and the library associated with academic institutions are inside which makes a wide range of learning. This

storehouse of knowledge disseminates information and provides multimodal services according to demand of the users. Library is promptly accessible for all users without consideration of their status. The 1972 UNESCO Manifesto for the Public library, although it was a great inducement for better public libraries, must be updated. Therefore, necessity for truly pluralistic collections must be emphasized if only to fight new (Gattegno, 1994). There should not be any biasness during collection development in the library. The library service will never rely on user's race, religion, political ideology and economic condition. In this regard, the library will not bow down to any pressure, as its main objective is to provide users with appropriate services.

Thus, the Public Library Manifesto indicates the path of open access, although it needs updates compatible with the development of new age technology. This manifesto is very relevant in today's era.

GUERILLA OPEN ACCESS MANIFESTO

In this changing phenomenon another manifesto, the manifesto of open access resources (Swartz, 2008) issued to the public containing the policies and aims deemed to be fit to the present-day's online access to knowledge resources and subscription commerce. The first sentence of this manifesto, which was issued on July 2008, was declaring 'information' as 'power'. The manifesto then referenced, "but like all power, there are those who want to keep it for themselves". Hockenberry (2013) noted that the Guerilla Open Access Manifesto contained as *"the world's entire scientific and cultural heritage, published over centuries in books and journals, is increasingly being digitized and locked up by a handful of private corporations (Swartz, 2008)."* The manifesto calls against such commercial pressures and argued people by mentioning "but there is something we can do: we can fight back". This manifesto advocate even for which is called 'stealing' or 'piracy,' to get free access to the vast databases of knowledge and information control under the commercial publishing. According to this manifesto the sharing of knowledge content "....isn't immoral – it's a moral imperative... There is no justice in following unjust laws." It is in support to use the research data freely without any hindrance, wherever it is available. The Manifesto wants to copy the information and reach out to people around the world. So it will be open to all the people without

any financial burden. In this point of view, it finished up with the opinion that –

> *"We need to take the stuff that's out of copyright and add it to the archive.*
> *We need to buy secret databases and put them on the Web.*
> *We need to download scientific journals and upload them to file sharing networks.*
> *We need to fight for Guerilla Open Access..."* (Swartz, 2008).

In this context, note that the government fund or public money is being spent at two levels. Firstly the government is paying for the research project and the output of the research is being published as research papers in commercial journal. In the second phase, the government institution has to spend again to subscribe to that journal. In this case, the waste of government money is unnecessary.

BUDAPEST OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE

This has led to the reversal of a new era. According to the declaration of Budapest Open Access Initiative (2012) open knowledge system is based on open knowledge objects. This system supports free accessibility of research articles or publications in any form to be available online. It advocates for allowing people to use the research data in different purposes. Online data can be copied and downloaded as needed. Not only this, it can be printed and can be freely distributed without any barrier. Besides, it is also permitted to pass them as input data to software and utilize them for some other legitimate reason without budgetary, technical or specialized hindrances other than those indistinguishable from accessing the web itself (Wikipedia, 2018). However, the author or creator should be given proper recognition of his work in view of copyright law. In this point of view, author must be acknowledged and cited properly whenever reproduction and distribution is necessary. It falls into user's moral and legitimate responsibility.

As a whole open knowledge objects are i) freely available on the public domain, ii) licensed to use for any legal purpose and iii) subject only to proper acknowledgment.

PARADIGM SHIFT OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Libraries today are in a radical transformation process economically and technologically. As economically, the knowledge what the scholars create is transforming towards commodification. Users are considered today as consumers and the knowledge as intellectual property to be monetized. This 'commercial phenomenon' has profound effect on the library, specially the escalating cost of subscriptions to resources, shrinking budget, and cuts in professional staff. We are living in a world in which knowledge is turned into intellectual property, monetized, and made artificially scarce. There is a paradigm shift of libraries today. Users increasingly value the library primarily as a purchaser of the information rather library as a gateway of knowledge, or an institution that will preserve it for the greater good. Libraries are depended on rental of information that is licensed rather possession of information (not owned). A large portion of the library's virtual stacks could be emptied out at the flick of a switch; a sudden repossession of cultural materials if the rent isn't paid or subscriptions isn't renewed.

ROADS TO OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

Open Access publishing is the most common topic currently. Nowadays, open access is considered as two separate routes, firstly open access journals and second self-archiving. Open access can be in any kind of published research work. However, self-archiving can realize full open access to the research papers across the world (Guedon, 2004). The two paths or roads in this way will converge to make a developed open access scene, i.e., "golden road" and "green road". Therefore, there are two ways to publish the open access articles on the internet. Concept of these two roads is summarized herein under.

- The "golden road" is nothing but the process of publishing open access journals. Open access journal can be accessible freely without any hindrance. This journal provides access to full-text articles free of cost. Open access journal often collects processing fees from the author for publishing article. This money is spent on reviewing the articles and publishing online. Besides, the cost of publication is collected from other sources. But open access journal never collects subscription fees

from readers. So, this is an important step to open the knowledge resources for everyone.

- The "green road" of open access is the process through which the author publishes his/her own articles as self-archiving. In this case, the authors open their writing e-prints for everyone and readers do not have to spend any cost to read articles. E-prints are the digital texts of peer-reviewed research articles, before and after referring. Before refereeing and publication, the draft is called a "pre-print". The referred, accepted final draft is called a "post-print". E-prints include both pre-prints and post-prints. Researchers are encouraged to self-archive them all to maximize the visibility and accessibility of one's research, the usage and impact of one's work. Merely, publishing it provides minimal impact: also self-archiving it provides maximal impact.

Shedding light on this category of open access reveals that scholars in diverse disciplines are adopting open-access practices and being rewarded for it (Antelman, 2004). Because of the free articles are used extensively, the possibility of author's citation can increase greatly.

ORGANIZATION OF OPEN KNOWLEDGE OBJECTS

The Open Knowledge Initiative is a significant event in the current higher education world. This is the architecture which is open and suitable for learning technology (Collier & Robson, 2002). Mukhopadhyay (2016) stated that more and more scholarly materials are now taking the route of open access publishing. But quality secondary services necessary for utilization of open access primary information sources are limited in number and quality. Almost all of these services are running either on project basis or merely on the basis of voluntary efforts of enthusiastic user groups. The list herein under is the major Web-enabled secondary information services (generic and domain-specific) that cover open knowledge objects to a great extent.

1. Academic Subject Directory
   Examples: Infomine (http://infomine.ucr.edu/)
   Librarians' Index to Internet (www.lii.org)
   Internet Public Library (http://ipl.org/)
2. Scholarly Search Engine

Examples: Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com/)
Scirus-Science (http://www.scirus.com/srsapp/
Velocity - Bio Sc. (http://biometacluster.com/)

3. Subject Gateway
Examples: Intute - Social Science (http://www.intute.ac.uk)
SSR - Social Sc. (http://www.socsciresearch.com/)
SciCentral - Science (http://www.scicentral.com/)
Vega - Chemical Sc. (http://www.vega.org.uk/)
Intute - Arts & humanities http://www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/
Voice - Humanities (http://vos.ucsb.edu/)
4. Open Access Resources - Tools and Services
4A. Open Access Journals -Directories and Lists
Examples: DOAJ (http://www.doaj.org/)
Biomed Central (http://www.biomedcentral.com/browse/journals/)
Acera (http://aera-cr.asu.edu/ejournals/)
Arxiv (http://arxiv.org/)
4B Open Access Repositories - Directories and Lists
Examples: DOAR (http://www.opendoar.org)
ROAR (http://roar.eprints.org/)
PLoS (http://www.plos.org/)

CONCLUSION

Open access is a big relief for scientific community as well as common people. International organizations like UNESCO can play an important role in globalizing this movement. The present publisher based scholarly communication to an open access environment throws up a number of challenges.

Digital Right Management is a system that protects the copyrights of digital content that is distributed online. Policies are created by administrators or information owners. The development of the web as a library that is open to everybody is a powerful and welcome trend. Next generation Web based tools like Blogs, RSS, Wikis etc. are acting as agents of change for designing and developing open and interactive academic webpage.

Librarians always prefer open access, but care for their legitimate use. While using another's intellectual output, it must be acknowledge and recommended to refer to the creator. If the result of the research is summed up in the business context, then its benefits are not available in all the society. It is also not desirable for the developing countries like India to waste public money. In today's era, it is a matter of issue that publishers are increasingly gaining profit, without consideration of their role in the formation of society. Therefore, open archives are a very important issue that should be considered by all the policy makers of the country and promoting is recommended.

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